ABSTRACT

The invention provides a method for recording information in the form of a pattern of magnetic domains in a recording layer. The recording layer includes a material having a *Curie temperature and grains, the grains having boundaries over which the exchange coupling is small. The method includes a first step of applying heat to the material, thereby heating an area of the recording layer to a temperature above the Curie temperature during a first interval. In a second step a magnetic field is applied to the area during a second interval, the second interval ending after the first interval.